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United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Name of Assigned Judge or Magistrate Judge	James B. Zagel	Sitting Judge if Other than Assigned Judge	
CASE NUMBER	12 C 3005	DATE	JUN 04 2012
CASE TITLE	Kevin Dawson (#2010-0322194) v. Cook County, et al.		

DOCKET ENTRY TEXT:

Plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* [#3] is granted. The Court authorizes and orders Cook County Jail officials to deduct \$21.43 from Plaintiff's account, and to continue making monthly deductions in accordance with this order. The Clerk shall send a copy of this order to the supervisor of inmate trust fund accounts, Cook County Dept. of Corrections Administrative Office, Division V, 2700 S. California, Chicago, IL 60608. The Cook County Jail is dismissed as a Defendant. The Clerk is directed to issue summonses for Defendant Cook County, Tom Dart, Director Miller, Superintendent Brattlein, and Correctional Officer Vasques, and the United States Marshals Service is appointed to serve them. The Clerk shall send Plaintiff Instructions for Submitting Documents, along with a copy of this order.

■ [For further details see text below.]

Docketing to mail notices.

STATEMENT

Plaintiff, Kevin Dawson, presently in custody of the Cook County Jail, has brought this *pro se* civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. Plaintiff claims that Defendants, Tom Dart, Director Miller, Superintendent Brattlein, and Correctional Officer Brattlein violated his constitutional rights by failing to provide him a handicap accessible cell and bunk or showers. More specifically, Plaintiff claims that he is wheelchair bound and was kept in a cell that did not have hand rails and in which he could not turn his chair around. He further alleges that there were no safety rails in the showers, that Defendant Brattlein provided him a broken shower chair, and that he fell in the shower, cutting a gash in his leg. As to Defendant Dart, Plaintiff alleges a custom and policy of denying handicapped pre-trial detainees accommodations commensurate with their conditions and needs. Plaintiff has also named Defendant Cook County as the public entity for purposes of pursuing a claim under the American's with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.*

Plaintiff's motion for leave to proceed *in forma pauperis* is granted. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1), the plaintiff is assessed an initial partial filing fee of \$21.43. The supervisor of inmate trust accounts at the Cook County Jail is authorized and ordered to collect, when funds exist, the partial filing fee from Plaintiff's trust fund account and pay it directly to the Clerk of Court. After payment of the initial partial filing fee, the trust fund officer at Plaintiff's place of confinement is directed to collect monthly payments from Plaintiff's trust fund account in an amount equal to 20% of the preceding month's income credited to the account. Monthly payments collected from Plaintiff's trust fund account shall be forwarded to the Clerk of Court each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10 until the full \$350 filing fee is paid. All payments shall be sent to the Clerk, United States District Court, 219 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, Illinois 60604, attn: Cashier's Desk, 20th Floor, and shall clearly identify Plaintiff's name and the case number assigned to this action. The Cook County inmate trust account office shall notify transferee authorities of any outstanding balance in the event Plaintiff is transferred from the jail to another correctional facility.

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STATEMENT (continued)

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, the Court is required to conduct a prompt initial review of prisoner complaints against governmental entities or employees. Here, accepting Plaintiff's factual allegations as true, the Court finds that the complaint states a colorable cause of action under the Civil Rights Act as to Defendants Dart, Miller, Brattlein, and Vasques for deliberate indifference to a serious medical need. *Davis v. Carter*, 453 F.3d 686, 696 (7th Cir. 2006). While a more fully developed record may belie the Plaintiff's allegations, Defendants must respond to the complaint.

However, With respect to Defendant Cook County Jail, county agencies and departments are not proper suable entities in § 1983 litigation. See *Castillo v. Cook County Mail Room Dept.*, 990 F.2d 304, 307 (7th Cir. 1993). As such, the Cook County Jail is dismissed as a Defendant.

The Clerk shall issue summonses for service of the complaint on Defendants Cook County, Tom Dart, Director Miller, Superintendent Brattlein, and Correctional Officer Vasques (hereinafter, "Defendants"). The Clerk shall also send Plaintiff a Magistrate Judge Consent Form and Instructions for Submitting Documents along with a copy of this order.

The United States Marshals Service is appointed to serve Defendants. Any service forms necessary for Plaintiff to complete will be sent by the Marshal as appropriate to serve Defendants with process. The U.S. Marshal is directed to make all reasonable efforts to serve Defendants. With respect to any former jail employee who can no longer be found at the work address provided by Plaintiff, the Cook County Department of Corrections shall furnish the Marshal with Defendant's last-known address. The information shall be used only for purposes of effectuating service [or for proof of service, should a dispute arise] and any documentation of the address shall be retained only by the Marshal. Address information shall not be maintained in the Court file, nor disclosed by the Marshal. The Marshal is authorized to mail a request for waiver of service to Defendants in the manner prescribed by Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(d)(2) before attempting personal service.

Plaintiff is instructed to file all future papers concerning this action with the Clerk of Court in care of the Prisoner Correspondent. Plaintiff must provide the Court with the original plus a complete judge's copy, including any exhibits, of every document filed. In addition, Plaintiff must send an exact copy of any Court filing to Defendants [or to defense counsel, once an attorney has entered an appearance on behalf of Defendants]. Every document filed with the Court must include a certificate of service stating to whom exact copies were mailed and the date of mailing. Any paper that is sent directly to the judge or that otherwise fails to comply with these instructions may be disregarded by the Court or returned to Plaintiff.